

**(57) Abstract**

A method, a system, and a network entity for performing the switch-over of a protected Label Switched Path (LSP) in (less than) 50 ms. A goal of the preferable arrangement is to move the tasks related to the switch-over away from the CPU to hardware (HW). The ASIC applies a communication protocol to signal a need for a switch-over between two (or several) units without CPU's participation. A unit, for example Sink of protected domain, which has detected a fault, sends a so-called protection message to a protection pair unit of the unit. The protection pair unit interprets the protection message and activates the connection on the protecting unit.